

## Message Text

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10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 RSR-01

/072 W

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P R 010430 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1652

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 0526

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, AS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: SIR DONALD ANDERSON'S THOUGHTS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

REF: MELBOURNE 0508

1. IN DINNER FOURSOME WITH SIR DONALD ANDERSON, HE VENTURED THAT, ALTHOUGH IN THE PROCESS OF SELLING HIS MELBOURNE HOUSE PRIOR TO MOVING TO SYDNEY, HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS " STAY ON THE JOB" A WHILE. THE EXACT MEANING OKE" A WHILE" WAS RATHER ELASTIC, BUT APPEARED TO HOVER AROUND A CENTER POINT OF SOMETIME IN JULY.

2. SIR DONALD FELT THAT THE US- AUSTRALIAN TALKS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF JULY SHOULD CONTINUE AND HE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ATTEND THEM. HE MENTIONED THAT THE PROTOCOL PROBLEMS MIGHT HAVE TO BE OVERLOOKED, BUT PERHAPS THE US DELEGATION WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DOING THIS. HE THOUGHT HIS LONG ASSOCIATION WITH JOHN MEADOWS WAS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN ARRIVING AT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT AND, THEREFORE, IF THE US DESIRED IT, HE WOULD BE MORE THAN WILLING TO PARTICIPATE.

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EM SIR DONALD FELT THAT BOB PHILLIPS WAS PROBABLY THE MAIN  
CONTENDER AT THE MOMENT TO HEAD UP THE NEW COMBINED  
DEPARTMENTS OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TRANSPORT, BUT  
THAT NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE AS FAR AS HE KNEW AND  
THE FIELD COULD BE WIDE OPEN.

4. SIR DONALD DOES NOT KNOW JACK EGERTON, THE LABOR  
UNION OFFICIAL RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE QANTAS BOARD.  
HOWEVER, HE PLANS TO MEET HIM THIS WEEKEND WHILE ON A  
TRIP TO BRISBANE.

5. WHEN ASKED THE ROLE OF SIR LENOX HEWITT ON THE  
QANTAS BOARD ALL SIR DONALD COULD SAY WAS THAT HE WAS  
A GOOD FRIEND- A VERY GOOD FRIEND- OF THE PRIME  
MINISTER.

6. ACTION REQUIRED: SINCE AT THE LAST NEGOTIATIONS  
THE US TEAM PROMISED TO SUGGEST A SPECIFIC DATE FOR  
THE NEXT TALKS IN WASHINGTON, IT MIGHT NOW BE  
APPROPRIATE AND BENEFICIAL TO US INTERESTS TO NAME THE  
EXACT PERIOD. IF THE DEPARTMENT FEELS IT WOULD " BE NICE"  
TO SEE SIR DONALD HEADING, OR ON, THE TEAM, AN INFORMAL  
WORD TO THIS EFFECT ( TO KEITH TOAKLEY PERHAPS) MIGHT BE  
WORTHWHILE.

7. COMMENT: SIR DONALD RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE RECENT  
CHANGES WITHOUT PROMPTING, ALTHOUGH HE WAS PERHAPS NOT AS  
OPEN OR FORTHCOMING AS HE HAS BEEN ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.  
FLUKER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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